

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 060243

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

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FROM AMBASSADOR ZURHELLEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, PDIP, US, NS

SUBJECT: SUGGESTED REMARKS ON PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

REF: PARAMARIBO 186

1. FOLLOWING IS REDRAFT OF VERY HELPFUL REFTEL. IF IT MEETS WITH EMBASSY APPROVAL, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE ADVANCE COPY TO GOS ON INFORMAL BASIS.

2. QUOTE, YOUR EXCELLENCY: I AM HONORED TO HAND TO YOU THE LETTER OF CREDENCE ADDRESSED TO YOU BY PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD ACCREDITING ME AS THE FIRST AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAM AND TO BRING TO YOU THE BEST WISHES OF PRESIDENT FORD AND OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SURINAM SPAN ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SIX YEARS, ALMOST THE ENTIRETY OF THE BICENTENNIAL PERIOD WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS CELEBRATING THIS YEAR. YOUR LAND WAS AMONG THE FIRST WITH WHICH MINE
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PAGE 02 STATE 060243

DEALT AT THE BEGINNING OF ITS INDEPENDENCE; TO BE THE

FIRST AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO YOU IN YOUR INDEPENDENCE IS
DEEPLY MEANINGFUL TO ME.

OVER THESE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SIX YEARS, BOTH
COUNTRIES HAVE CHANGED GREATLY AND, CURIOUSLY, IN PARALLEL
FASHION. WE HAVE BOTH EVOLVED ECONOMICALLY FROM FRONTIER
SOCIETIES. WE HAVE EXPERIENCED WAVES OF IMMIGRATION,
BRINGING DIVERSE CULTURAL HERITAGES TO OUR SHORES. WE
HAVE BOTH KNOWN SLAVERY, AND WE BOTH KNOW THEREBY THE
TRUE WORTH OF FREEDOM AND OF HUMAN DIGNITY. THE UNITED
STATES AND SURINAM STAND AS POLITICAL DEMOCRACIES AND
TAKE LEGITIMATE PRIDE IN THEIR INSTITUTIONS AND CON-
STITUTIONALLY GUARANTEED CIVIL LIBERTIES.

EVEN NOW, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE GOES ON. THE
SURINAM GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE ARE EMBARKED UPON AN
IMPRESSIVE EFFORT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE
EQUALIZATION OF SOCIAL OPPORTUNITY. THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
UNDERSTAND AND SYMPATHIZE WITH THIS EFFORT AND HOPE FOR
YOUR SUCCESS.

AS I EMBARK UPON MY MISSION, YOUR EXCELLENCY, I AM
DEEPLY CONSCIOUS OF THE MEN AND WOMEN OF BOTH OUR
COUNTRIES WHO DEVOTED THEIR LIVES TO MAKING OUR NATIONS
FREE, AND I AM MINDFUL OF THE FUTURE GENERATIONS ON WHOSE
BEHALF WE BOTH WORK. IT WILL BE MY CONSTANT CONCERN
TO CONTINUE THE FRANK COMMUNICATIONS AND FRIENDLY RE-
LATIONS, BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT, THAT HAVE CHARACTERIZED
OUR BILATERAL HISTORY THUS FAR, AND TO REINFORCE THE
LONG-STANDING AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL TIES THAT EXIST
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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